GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2867
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
INDO- RUSSIA COLLABORATION FOR MISSION TO MOON
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia has signed any agreement to collaborate with regard to India's Mission to Moon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the primary objectives/goals of Chandrayan-I and Chandrayan-II;

(d) the estimated cost of these two projects/missions;

(e) whether India proposes to exploit the mineral resources of Moon; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed on 12th November, 2007 between Indian Space Research Organisation and Federal Space Agency (Russia) on cooperation in the field of Joint Lunar Exploration.

(c) The Chandrayaan-I mission is primarily aimed at high-resolution remote sensing of the moon in visible, near Infrared, low energy X-ray and high-energy X-ray regions.

The objective of Chandrayaan-II Mission is to design, realize and deploy a lunar Lander-rover capable of soft landing on a specified lunar site to enable in situ detection of chemicals, maximally using the data gathered during Chandrayaan-I mission.

(d) The estimated cost of Chandrayaan-I and Chandrayaan-II missions is Rs.386 crores and Rs.425 crores, respectively.

(e) & (f) Yes, Sir. This will depend on the outcome of Chandrayaan-II mission's in situ detection of minerals on the surface of the Moon.